

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 07362 141605Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 /089 W
-----054449 151229Z /64

R 141522Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8941
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L AGOS 7362

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, CG, NI
SUBJECT THE CANCELLATION OF THE MOBUTU VISIT TO LAGOS

REF: A) LAGOS 7318 B) LAGOS 6795

1. EMBASSY OFFIER SPOKE WITH ZAIRE COUNSELOR KAMINA ON JUNE 14 CONCERNING THE CANCELLATION OF PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S VISIT TO LAGOS. KAMINA SAID THAT HE HAD INFORMED MEA ON JUNE 6 THAT MOBUTU WANTED TO POSTPONE THE VISIT FOR "TWO OR THREE MONTHS." ACCORDING TO KAMINA, MOBUTU IS "TOO BUSY" IN ZAIRE, PARTICULARLY TRAVELLING TO SHABA EVERY FEW DAYS, TO COME TO LAGOS NOW.

2. ASKED WHETHER NIGERIA'S ATTITUDE ON THE SHABA SITUATION OR ADVERSE PRESS COMMENT HERE CONTRIBUTED TO THE DECISION, KAMINA LAUGHED AND SAID HE THOUGHT NOT. "WE ARE WLL AWARE OF NIGERIA'S ATTITUDE AND HAVE BEEN FOR A LONG TIME." TO THE CONTRARY, KAMINA HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT BOTH LEADERS WERE ANXIOUS TO DISCUSS MATTERS. AT THE MEETING WITH THE ZAIRE SPECIAL ENVOY (REF B), ACCORDING TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 07362 141605Z

KAMINA, OBASANJO MADE A POINT OF SAYING HE WANTED TO TALK TO "MY BROTHER" ABOUT SHABA AND EXPRESSED "SURPRISE" ABOUT THE OUTBREAK OF FIGHTING BECAUSE THE NIGERIANS HAD DISCUSSED THE ANGOLA-ZAIRE SITUTION WITH PRESIDENT NETO WHEN HE VISITED LAGOS IN JANUARY AND NETO HAD ASSURED THEM THAT THINGS WERE GOING BETTER.

3. ASKED WHETHER NIGERIA WOULD PLAY A MEDIATING ROLE BETWEEN ZAIRE AND ANGOLA, KAMINA SAID THAT OBASANJO HAD OFFERED HIS "GOOD OFFICES" DURING THE MEETING WITH THE SPECIAL ENVOY, BUT NOTHING WAS BEING DONE AT THE PRESENT TIME. THAT COULD HAVE BEEN A SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION IF MOBUTU HAD COME TO LAGOS.

4. COMMENT: WE WOULD BE INCLINED TO ACCEPT KAMINA'S EXPLANATION THAT THE VISIT WAS POSTPONED PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF MOBUTU'S BUSY SCHEDULE AT HOME RATHER THAN OUT OF PIQUE OVER NIGERIA'S ATTITUDE ON THE PROBLEM. NEVERTHELESS, MOBUTU COULD HARDLY HAVE LOOKED FORWARD TO A MEETING WITH OBASANJO WHERE HE COULD EXPECT A STERN FATHERLY LECTURE WITH LITTLE TANGIBLE POLITICAL BENEFIT. END COMMENT.
WYMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LAGOS07362
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780250-0350
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780661/aaaacamc.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c6793289-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LAGOS 7318, 78 LAGOS 6795
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2360430
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE CANCELLATION OF THE MOBUTU VISIT TO LAGOS
TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, CG, NI, (MOBUTU SESE SEKO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c6793289-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014